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sity of California, has made this a valuable study of leading personalities in the United States, who have shaped what might be called its progressive religious thought during the past generation. A major part of the book is given over to estimates of Theodore T. Munger, George A. Gordon, William J. Tucker, Egbert C. Smyth, and Washington Gladden, all of the same denomination (Congregational) as the writer.

Professor Buckham deems President Tucker's article on "The Crux of the Peace Problem," published in the *Atlantic Monthly* of April, 1916, as a classic in peace literature, because it sounds the note of an aggressive, not a passive, peace, and of a peace only to be won and kept at the cost of moral sacrifice. Reference also is made to Dr. Gladden's admirable service in the peace cause, and especially to the essay, "The Fork of the Roads," with which he won the Church Union prize in 1916.

Taking the book as a whole and considering the accuracy of its delineations of the men and the careers listed, it is surprising how little prevision this group of progressives had of the coming international conflict and of what the church should do to ward it off. While men were fighting over "Science vs. Religion," "Who Wrote the Bible?" "Is There Future Probation?" etc., the world was setting at naught the ethics of Jesus and man's stored achievements in international law.

Summing up his indictment of the new theology in the light of the World War, Professor Buckham says of it: "It was too optimistic. It failed to see how far many of the facts and forces of modern life are from being consonant with Christianity. Its doctrines were extensive enough in their scope, but not intensive enough in their application. They did not take account of all the facts. . . . It would not be true to say that the new theology ignored evil or belittled sin, but it failed to take full account of their flinty factuality."

The Moral Basis of Democracy. By Arthur Twining Hadley. Yale University Press, New Haven. Pp. 206. \$1.75.

This collection of lay sermons and baccalaureate addresses by the President of Yale University is conspicuous for the iteration by this educator of the duty resting upon educated men of keeping sane and Christian during times like the present. He argues effectively for less prejudice between individuals, nations, and races; for sincere attempts to get at the bottom of disputes that lead to conflict, whether major or minor in importance. There is a constant recurrence to the ethics of Jesus as the final test, and unflinching optimism as to the ultimate triumph of the democratic principle.

Sanctus Spiritus and Co. By Edward A. Steiner. Geo. H. Doran Co., New York. Pp. 320.

Professor Steiner, of Grinnell College, Iowa, in this book has used fiction to tell much the same story that he has set forth in earlier works of a different sort dealing with immigration. If one would know what the village life of the many races formerly subjects of the Austria-Hungarian Empire was; of the effect upon them of the migration to America of their sons and daughters; of the problems the latter faced when they went home to their native towns and tried to be filial and fraternal, and of the issues of life and loyalty which former subjects of the now disrupted kingdom faced in the United States during the recent war, let him read this book. Professor Steiner knows better than most Americans the inner life and tragedies of the immigrants from central Europe as they try to adjust themselves to an America that has not always been as friendly in practice as it has been in theory. His own personal experiences as a mediator between the resurgent nationalism of Europe and of the United States during the recent war has not been of a kind pleasing to a Christian who accepts Jesus' authority as final and who at heart is a pacifist.

Unhappy Far-Off Things. By Lord Dunsany. Little, Brown & Co., Boston. Pp. 104. \$1.25 net.

This Irish playwright, soldier, and ironist has used in this volume, as in his "Tales of War," the vignette or prose pastel form of narrative to tell his readers what war did for the towns and cities of ravaged France. With a minimum of

words, the sense of chaos there found is produced and the "Abomination of Desolation" described; but interwoven with the narrative are mordant comments of a kind that give a tang to all of this significant Celt's work.

The Plot Against Mexico. By L. J. de Bekker. Alfred A. Knoff, New York. Pp. 295.

The author of this book has served the *New York Evening Post* and the *New York Tribune* in Mexico as a correspondent. During 1918 he was confidential assistant to the U. S. War Trade Board. He has been a student of Latin-American affairs for many years, and during 1919 traveled 1,600 miles in Mexico, interviewing its clergy, educators, business men, and public officials and gathering information which has since been used to combat the effort in and out of Congress to bring the sister republics into war.

It is a fighting book. Details as well as generalizations abound. The general charges are that there is a plot against Mexico involving several high officials in the United States Government; that its object is armed intervention in Mexico on some pretext of "pacification," the real purpose being permanent military occupation of the country. The originators of the plot, according to this critic, are American oil men operating in Mexico, who are aided by one of the most widely ramified and powerful publicity bureaus with which American journalism of an independent sort has had to contend. Disputing with British oil operators for possession of oil fields and operating rights which the Carranza administration guards, the American and the British together plot to restore an executive of the type of Diaz, though of course the covetous Americans prefer out-and-out American suzerainty in the guise of "benevolent assimilation."

The book is valuable not only for its specifications backing these charges, but also for its study of Mexican art, journalism, and social evolution; for its light on German activities in Mexico during the war, and for the documents it publishes showing that the native Roman Catholic clergy and the Protestant missionaries and educators from the United States are agreed in opposing any intervention by the United States and in denouncing the plutocratic forces that are conspiring against Carranza because he is safeguarding the economic treasures of the land and casting his influence against the long-oppressed few and for the many peons and the rising middle class.

The Political Future of India. By Lajpat Rai. B. W. Huebsch, New York City. Pp. 208, with appendices. \$1.50.

The author of this book has been a resident of the United States for some time, partly because he wanted to be and partly because he was not *persona grata* in India. The case of India for a large measure of home rule and local and dominion administration under principles laid down by the Morley and Montagu-Chelmsford reports is here stated with skill. In so doing the author has indirectly indicated the sort of intellect that India can provide from its subtly trained, modernistic and democratic leaders, when it comes to discussion of theories and methods of government. The author's previous books on India had prepared an audience for this work. Happily, recent events in India have hastened concessions by Great Britain to some extent meeting the criticism of this native publicist and those who agree with him. The post-war reactions in India have been no less disturbing and revolutionary than elsewhere in Europe and Asia. Under the haunting fear of what internal revolt, simultaneous with subtle attack by Leninism coming from interior northern Asia, might do to shake the authority of the Crown, the British authorities in London are beginning to give way. The chief obstructionists, now as always, are the ruling lesser officials in India, who, while they may have a technical knowledge of immediate problems, can hardly have the objective, broad point of view of the London authorities, surveying the world-complex and prescribing for imperial interests as a whole. For humanity at large the crucial interest in the problem with which this book deals is this: essential democracy, self-determination, and home rule are vital slogans now among the teeming millions of a land that has known autocracy under native and foreign forms for centuries.

NOTICE TO READERS:—The Index to Volume LXXXI (1919) of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE* is now ready and will be sent free to any one applying for it.